

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 10171 011344Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAB-01 /054 W

----- 044192

R 011255Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9242

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, IZ, IR

SUBJECT: MORE IRANIAN CRITICISM OF IRAQI SHI'ITE ARRESTS

REF: TEHRAN 10091

1. CORRECTING EARLIER ALLEGATIONS THAT FIVE SHI'ITE LEADERS WERE EXECUTED IN IRAQ (REFTEL), IRANIAN PRESS NOW CONFINING CRITICISM TO IMPOSITION OF FIVE DEATH SENTENCES AND 35 LONG PRISON SENTENCES BY IRAQI GOVERNMENT. KAYHAND INTERNATIONAL STATES THAT ONE PERSON CONDEMNED TO DEATH IS SON OF AYATOLLAH HOJJAT OL-ISLAM SEYED JAVAD QAZVINI. (FYI QAZVINI NOT AN IMPORTANT FIGURE IN IRAN. END FYI) AN EDITORIAL IN THE SAME PAPER CLAIMS SHI'A HOLY PLACES IN QOM AND MASHAD WERE CLOSED FOR A DAY LAST WEEK IN PROTEST. IT CONCLUDES: "THE SENTENCES SMACK OF AN ATTEMPT TO STIFLY INTERNAL PROTEST, TO COW AN ALREADY OPPRESSED POPULATION AND TO DIVERT ATTENTION AWAY FROM DOMESTIC FAILURES BY RAISING THE SPECTRE OF FOREIGN ENEMIES AND ALLEGED ANTI-STATE ACTIVITIES."

2. COMMENT: PROPAGANDA BARRAGE IS HAVING SOME EFFECT IN STIRRING EMOTIONS OF THE MAN-IN-THE-STREET, BUT SOPHISTICATED IRANIANS RECOGNIZE THE PRESS CAMPAIGN AS ANOTHER ATTEMPT

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TO PUT IRAQI REGIME IN A BAD LIGHT.

MIKLOS

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Message Attributes

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